



The Castle, 147 Kentish Town Rd: NW1 8PB

> I am writing to object to the proposal put forward by Ringley for the above site.

> One of my reasons for objecting to this application is that if Camden grants Ringley permission to demolish the Castle it is allowing these developers to benefit from their behaviour to date - i.e. to begin demolition without permission - it's setting a precedent for any other developer to come along and pull down buildings without permission. Often the fine is derisory for going against planning legislation, compared to the profit the company would make from a new building on the same site.

> Developers want to make money no matter what the cost to the environment, neighbourhood or aesthetics. I'm confident that the council is keen to protect these things on behalf of the community.

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> As for the development itself, it's on a high street, where more offices means less benefit to the local community. And particularly not appropriate if the applicants are proposing to provide accommodation with no parking - quite apart from the additional load on local street parking, it means the flats wouldn't be suitable for anyone with mobility problems. We still don't know what's going to happen to the Pizza Express building, but this means two buildings that were previously of benefit to local people (whatever recent history at the Castle may suggest) are lost.

> As for what should go in its place, local families really miss Pizza Express - although we have loads of restaurants locally, most of them are not particularly family friendly. Or a pub such as the Grafton Arms, if Camden were prudent about granting music/late licences.

